



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council Meeting

January 14, 2009

DRAFT

Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council was held on January 14, 2009 at Northland Pioneer College, TAWA Building Room 205, located at 2251 N. Navajo in Holbrook, Az 85641.

Vice-Chair Pullin welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 3:10 p.m. Vice-Chair Pullin called for a roll call attendance; the following members were present:

Members present:

Claude Endfield, Mary Hammond, Becky Towle, Mary Tyler, Melissa Webb (via telephone), and Rance Pullin (Tom Barela and Cathy Taylor arrived after roll call)

Members absent: Margie Tapia, Michael Zimmerman

Others present:

AdiShakti Khalsa, Dee Hoagland, Lori Ball, Julie Fitzgerald, and Kathy White

Member Report and Updates

Member Endfield announced the birth of her great-granddaughter on Wednesday January 14, 2009. Congratulations!

Call to the Public

No calls to the public forms were received.

Adoption of Minutes

The December 10, 2008 Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council Minutes were presented for approval; Member Endfield moved to accept the Minutes as written; Member Towle seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Regional Coordinator's Report

Regional Coordinator Dobler-Allen updated the Council in the Quality First application process and status to date of there being more than 200 applications received state-wide.

Dobler-Allen updated the Council on efforts to recruit a member of the community to serve on this Council in the capacity of philanthropist, and that Gary Davis has been approached a few times and has declined at this time. Additionally, conversations have been had with the United Ways of Northern and North-Eastern Arizona to determine if there are any willing/able members of those boards who might be willing to serve on this Council as well. Council members are asked to talk with community members and to direct interested members to the First Things First website at www.azftf.gov.

Coordinator Dobler-Allen noted the following upcoming RFGA Informational Meetings have been completed:

Friday, December 12: East Flagstaff Public Library (9:45 a.m.)

Friday, December 12: NPC/Holbrook, Main Campus Learning Center (2:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 17: Whiteriver Unified School District, (3:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, January 6: Taylor Fire House (10:30am)

Tuesday January 12: St Johns Board of Supervisors Room at 10:30am
White Mountain Regional Medical Center at 2:30pm

Member Hammond asked members of the public in attendance if any had attended the meetings, and if so how useful were they: Dee Hoagland stated that she had attended the meeting in Taylor and that it was very informative and useful for her.

Additional RFGA meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday January 20: Lakeside Fire Station One at 10:30am

Monday January 26: Eagar NPC Classroom 3 at 10:30am

Wednesday January 28: Heber at NPC TLC Classroom at 10:30am

Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting scheduled for February 5, 2009 in Phoenix. Member Pullin will attend as Vice-Chair and Member Tyler will attend as Chair-designee in Chair Webb's absence. Meeting and hotel details will be sent out once they are determined and confirmed.

The scheduled events for the months of December, January, and February were reviewed with the Council.

Discussion of Revised Time-line:

Dobler-Allen presented the phased roll-out approach for the initial set of RFGA's based on the level of cross-divisional team input needed, as well as review by regional management, finance, policy, evaluation, and in some cases communications, as well as executive management to ensure that the content of the logic models will ultimately inform the specific content of the resulting contracts that providers will be responding to, and eventually be signing.

Dobler-Allen stated that First Things First agency wide will be working on logic models, scopes of work, and RFGA development so that as many RFGA's as possible can be funded by July 1, 2009. However, she

stated that there is a possibility that not all funds will be dispersed by July 1, due to the over-all level of work that some RFGA's may need.

Dobler-Allen reminded Council members that we all need to keep the over-all goal of creating systemic change that is sustainable and workable at the front of our minds. We need to be clear that we are working towards systemic change, and not towards funding specific programs or services. Dobler-Allen acknowledged Council member's disappointment surrounding the delay of funding. However, she stated that a delay of a few weeks or months at the beginning of this process so that we can ensure that we get it right the first time, and that we get strong proposals in response to the RFGA's that are let out that accurately address the desires of the Council, will not negatively impact that over-all goals of First Things First.

Discussion of Phase I Logic Models Progress and Content

Dobler-Allen asked Council members for any additional input into the logic model content; no additional input was provided. Member Barela complimented the content of the logic models, and the regional coordinator's efforts to assure the intent of the Council was reflected in the logic models.

Member Barela asked what the implications of the State of Arizona budget deficit might be for First Things First; Dobler-Allen responded that at the moment the First Things First funds are voter protected and that it would take a large majority of the legislature with the governor's signature to allow any funds to be shifted, or diverted. There are several programs that may lose funding this fiscal year; all day kindergarten, child care subsidy, preschool block grants, etc. An option available to the legislature is to vote to pursue "borrowing" funds from First Things First, even though they are voter protected.

Member Barela stated that he had spoken with a legislator earlier in the day, and that the legislator's description was the same.

Dobler-Allen reported that the state-wide strategies of Quality First, Arizona Parent Kits, and T.E.A.C.H. will be included in the phase I group of strategies which will be funded on July 1, 2009. The expected roll-out plan for the remaining strategies for the Navajo/Apache Region is as follows:

Group One:

Early Childhood Laboratory School Advisory Group
Home Child Care Assessment Study with Coconino Region
Healthy Steps
Nutrition and Healthy Weight community-based information
Early Literacy and Child Development Programs

Group Two:

Employer-sponsored Child Care Market Research Study

Group Three:

Professional Development Lattice – SUCCEEDS to NPC
Scholarships for ECE related fields
Child Care Health Consultants

On Hold:

Communications
Needs and Assets

Expanding Child Care slots – Discretionary request not yet addressed by the Board

Discussion of RFGA (Request for Grant Application) Review Committees

Dobler-Allen reviewed the general process for the review of the RFGA applications that are submitted, and reviewed the list of potential reviewers that has been developed. The list was passed around; no additional names were added by Council members.

Members Hammond, Barela, and Taylor expressed an interest in being members of one or more review teams. Dobler-Allen will notify Council members when each RFGA has closed and all applications have been submitted, and each Council member will have the option to be part of the review team convened for each RFGA. Members are not required to be part of the review teams. The regional coordinator will determine the make-up of each review team, and will schedule, and notify all participants, about related meetings and trainings with each review team.

Adjournment

Vice-Chair Pullin adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Melissa Webb, Chair

Kate Dobler-Allen, Regional Coordinator